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To: Commissioner for Patents
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From: Pamela J. Squyres
Attorney Docket: MA-112
Phone: 408-869-2921

FAX NUMBER 703-872-9306

Re: Patent Application of: Roy E. Scheuerlein et al.	Examiner: N. Drew Richards
Serial No.: 10/728,451	Group Art Unit: 2815
Filed: December 5, 2003	Attorney Docket No.: MA-112
Title: High Density Contact to Relaxed Geometry Layers	


Document(s) Transmitted:

- ☐ Response to Restriction Requirement (2 pages)

Total pages of this transmission, including the cover letter: 3

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Roy E. Scheuerlein et

al.

Application No.: 10/728,451

Filed: 12/5/03

Title: High Density Contact to
Relaxed Geometry Layers

Attorney Docket No.: MA-112

Group Art Unit: 2815

Examiner: N. Drew Richards

Commissioner for Patents
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

To the Commissioner:

In the Restriction Requirement mailed June 27, 2005, Applicants were directed to elect between the "structure" claims of Group I (claims 1-73) and the "method" claims of Group II (claims 74-94.) Applicants elect to pursue the "structure" claims of Group I, without traverse.

App. No. 10/728,451

1

The Examiner further required election of a species for prosecution between Species IA and IB identified by the Examiner. Applicants elect for prosecution group IA, wherein the structure has staggered bottom routing levels as shown in Figs. 3, 6, 8f, and 9c, with traverse.

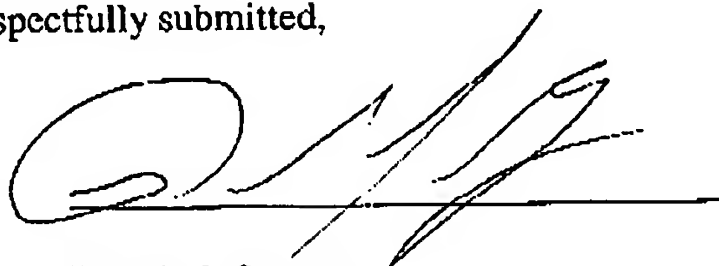
The claims in elected Group I that are readable thereon include claims 1-15, 27-29, 30-43, 55, 56-69, and 73.

Applicants traverse the requirement of election between species IA and IB on the grounds that claims 1-4, 28-31, 55, 56, 57, and 73 are generic to both species IA and IB. In the event that generic claims are allowed, Applicants will request rejoinder.

If there are any questions concerning this Response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at (408) 869-2921.

Dated: July 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. Squyres
Agent for Applicants
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